(b) if so, the reaction of Government on such criticism?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir. Greenpeace, an international environmental group, have been critical of India's non-proliferation record only on the criterion that India has not signed the NPT.

(b) Government rejects such criticism.

Visit of ICRC team to Jails in Jammu and Kashmir

3591. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allowed International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to visit the jails and detention centres and to have an access to detainees in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, what is the purpose of ICRC's visit to the jails and detention centres in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(c) what are the reasons for allowing the ICRC to visit these places and what are the political implications involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Pursuant to the request of the International Committee of Red Cross, a survey team had been permitted to visit Jammu and Kashmir in March 1994. Thereafter, certain proposals had been given by ICRC regarding further access to the State, including visit to jails and detention centres. These are under discussion with the ICRC.

Detention of Defence Personnel in Pakistan

3592. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Indian military personnel are still in Pakistan as POWS taken during the Indo-Pak conflicts in 1965 and 1971;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons for their detention in Pakistan as POWs; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government for their repatriation to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) According to available information, at present 54 missing Indian defence personnel are believed to be in custody in Pakistan. Our defence personnel have been missing since the 1965 and 1971 conflicts.

The question of the early release and repatriation of all Indian defence personnel under detention in Pakistan has repeatedly been taken up with the Government of Pakistan. These efforts continue. The Government of Pakistan, however, maintains that there are no Indian defence personnel in its custody.

Secret Meeting on No-First-use of Nuclear Weapons

3593. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a secret meeting sponsored by Government was recently held between the official representatives of India, Pakistan, United States of America and China and non-Governmental expets on first-use of nuclear weapons;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a four nation workshop on Global and Regional Arms Control was held in Goa from 14—19 January 1995. The workshop was organised by the Centre for Policy Research, a Delhi based NGO, with the association of the Federation of American Scientists (USA), Fudan University (China) and Institute for Strategic Studies of Pakistan. This was an NGO activity and no India official attended the Goa meeting.

Indian delegation to Copenhagen Social Summit

3594. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no representative of the Labour and Rural Development Ministries and of the Trade Unions, was included in the Indian delegation for the recent Copenhagen Social Summit despite specific requests from the ILO;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for non-inclusion of the representatives from these Ministries and the Trade Unions; and

(c) what are the considerations which weighed with Government in the composition of the Indian delegation to the Copenhagen Social Summit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) ILO had passed a resolution, requesting that national Governments should consider including representatives from trade unions and employers in their delegations to the World Summit for Social Development. A representative from the trade unions was included in the official Indian delegation to the Summit.

Prime Minister had established as Indian National Committee including Members of Parliament non-Governmental and voluntary organisations, academics and representatives of all departments of Government of India concerned with social development including Ministries of Labour and Rural Development, under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission to oversee India's preparations for the World Summit for Social Development.

Indian delegations for international conferences are constituted, keeping in mind negotiating experiences and expertise of the subject matter at hand public eminence of the member of the delegation concerned and functional requirements. The composition of the Indian delegation for World Summit for Social Development followed this well established practice.

Visit of the British team and a Canadian MD to Kashmir

3595. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a British team and a Canadian Member of Parliament recently visited the Kashmir Valley for an on-the-spot assessment of the situation;

(b) if so, whether Government have obtained any account of the impressions, gathered by them during their visit; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINSTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Mr. Hillary Synnott, Deputy High Commissioner in the British High Commission in New Delhi visited Srinagar from 8—10 March, 1995. Mr. Derek Lee, a Mmeber of the Canadian Parliament, visited Srinagar on 7-8 March, 1995.

(b) and (c) The visit of the British Deputy High Commisioner was in the context of normal functions of a Diplomatic Mission in New Delhi and as such, there was no requirement on the part of Government to obtain an account of his impressions. It is Government's under-